

Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee
Monday, December 14, 2020 - VIA ZOOM ONLY
Minutes

Committee members present: Chairman Bob Mott, Bob Thome, Jr., Jim Winkler, and Mitch Ives.

Others Present: Karl Jennrich, Michele Sadauskas, Stephanie Boismenu, Baerbel Ehrig, Jonna Jewell, Mike Romportl, Alan Van Raalte, Ryan Peterson, Dan Butkus, Josh Pike, Jeff Verdoorn, Norris Ross, Connie Anderson, Ryan Bennet, and Noah Lottig. Art Lersch, Myles Alexander, Anne Williams, Terri Kolb, Carrie Kubacki, Karly Harrison, Beckie Gaskill, and Merry Lehner.

Call to order: Chairman Mott called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and the meeting was properly posted.

Approve Agenda: A motion by Thome/Winkler to approve the December 14 agenda with the order of items at the Chair's discretion. All ayes; motion carried.

Oneida County Fair Report/Discussion:

The Fair Committee held officer elections on December 8, for the 2021 Fair Board members. The President is Meg Sprecksel and Vice President is Kerry Bloedorn. The Secretary is Stevie Henks and Treasurer, Suzanne Tjugum. All positions are effective January 1, 2020.

The Fair Office has moved from the Airport to an office in the Curran Building. The Airport did not provide as much space as was available at the Curran Building for the rent they would be charged. Winkler said that Brian Desmond sent a resolution master form for the Fair to use as exit agreement. Winkler is working on it, in pursuit of the fair becoming independent. Once complete, the Fair Committee will approve and forward to CUW Committee, and then onto the full County Board of Supervisors for approval.

Fair Rental and Authorization to Pay:

The Administration Committee approved the Curran Building Fair office rent. The Fair is asking the CUW Committee for approval. They will use carryover funds of \$14,000 and the remaining balance from the 2020 Fair. A line-item transfer for \$1,600 to cover rent and the security deposit was to Chairman Mott, included in the packets. (A typed in signature is acceptable, in a virtual meeting per agenda item 6.) Mott said there would be an understanding that the Fair will not be asking for any additional funding after this payment. Winkler/Thome made a motion to approve authorization for the Fair Committee to pay their rent at the Curran Building at \$400 per month. All ayes; motion carried.

Fair Privatization:

Mott read the opinion of Tom Wiensch, Corporation Counsel, on privatization of the Fair. Selling equipment to the Fair from the County once it is a private entity can be complicated, but there is the example of the Humane Society and Economic Development having made this work. The Agricultural Society, from long ago, as a working example of county and private entities working together.

Update Fair/City Contract, Business Plan, 501(c)(3) Conversation:

Their 501(c)(3) was filed and is awaiting approval. Myles Alexander said they are working with Ray Bergen, a SCORE (Service Core of Business Executives) volunteer. SCORE is a group of business people who will work with the Fair Committee. Fund-raising is critical to the privatization of the Fair. Winkler said the Fair Committee has staff working on specific fund-raising tasks such as sponsorships, crowd funding, district mail campaigns, and partnering with another 501(c)(3) to receive grants, and other ideas. Winkler will give an update and list at the next meeting. Brian Desmond sent over a draft of the contract to the City of Rhinelander. They are trying to get a contract together and are currently without a contract. It should be complete without issue. Mott asked if a fair admission could be re-considered. Desmond said the City has not wanted to charge admission for Fair due to it being a city park. It is open to all. Mott asked if new Council members might have a new perspective.

Approve Minutes: Agenda item three.

Thome/Winkler made a motion to approve 11/9/20 CUW Committee meeting minutes. All ayes; motion carried.

Future Meetings:

Monday, January 11, 2021	1:00 p.m.	Zoom Only
Monday, February 8, 2021	1:00 p.m.	To be Determined

Public Comment:

Related to Agenda Item 8: Wake Boats - General Discussion

Dan Butkus: Treasurer for Squash Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District. There are 13 wake boats on their 397 acre lake. They have had numerous complaints about the excessive wakes eroding shorelines, near misses between wake boats and other watercraft, and the inability for shared use of the waters. Their district boat was damaged when the waves produced by these boats pushed another boat into theirs. Divers cannot remove milfoil safely while these boats are present. Proper distances have not been kept from the dive bouys. The bows of these boats point upward which impairs the driver's view of what is directly in front of them. Under the public trust doctrine, the waters are to be shared by everyone. Wake boats have recreational value but they should not impair the enjoyment and safety of others. The State regulates watercraft on our waters, however the State does not seem to be tackling this issue. Therefore, the District requests that Oneida County assume leadership in the regulation of use of these boats capable of enhanced wakes and waves. Can the County impress upon state representatives to address the growing concerns of property owners and users of the lake? Under Chapter 3077, lake districts are prohibited from creating regulation to specific watercraft. Someone needs to take responsibility, and so the Squash Lake District asks that this be taken to a higher level.

Noah Lottig: Lake Tomahawk, has the same concern and has discussed the same issue at their last board meeting.

Norris Ross: Stated he seconds everything Butkus stated.

Connie Anderson, Crescent Lake, seconds what Butkus presented as well.

Jeff Verdoorn: Big Bearskin Lake Association, He echos the concern of increased wake boat type activities. It seems to be day visitors who are the biggest problem. Concerned with ballast tanks and invasives.

Agenda Item 8: Similar Activities: Maple Lake

Josh Pike: President of Camber of Commerce. For the last 12 years Three Lakes has hosted a boat race, called the Shoot Out. The boats in the race are shallow-hulled boats and do not make a large wake. He is concerned with tourism and commercial aspects. He does not want regulation to be too restrictive.

Ryan Bennet: Maple Lake Association. The plan to move the boating event, the Shoot Out, previously held on Stone Lake to Maple Lake is opposed. They have concerns about moving it to Maple Lake, which is too small. Stone Lake is much larger and on the chain whereas Maple Lake is an isolated, smaller lake. Residents have concerns over the effects of erosion, effects on conservation, and how the boat traffic will stir up the bottom. The race uses high speed boats, and that is not an appropriate choice for their shallow small lake and shorelines will be affected. It was cancelled this year but still is planned for next year. There is a big push for the business and tourism the event will take in, but it will harm this very clear lake.

Fred Knox: President of the Three Lake Waterfront Association. Is it appropriate? The mission of their association is the "preservation and protection" are of great concern. Onterra LLC has studied all the 20 of the Three Lakes chain. Maple Lake is the healthiest and at the most risk on the small ecosystem of this lake. It is not part of the Three Lake chain. The Chamber of Commerce and the town has made the choice of Maple Lake and Big Stone Lake would be a better choice.

Electronic Signature Approval for December 14, 2020 meeting:

Chairman Mott reviewed that Committee members and others will permit their typed in names to be represented as their signature on all documents for this virtual meeting. Thome/Winkler made motion to approve electronic signatures for today's meeting. All ayes; motion carried.

Crescent Lake District Petition – LWCD and Ryan Peterson:

Sadauskas announced that Crescent Lake submitted the petition to form a Lake District this morning. They will address the items below.

- a. Public Hearing Agenda: The date is set for January 9, 2021, Saturday, at 1:00 p.m. The Zoom meeting will start an hour in advance for the public to register to testify. Friday, January 8, 2021, before noon, is the deadline to call in advance. They need Committee approval. For the Registration and/or Testimony Form: there are three ways to Testify in Favor/Opposition, Register in Favor/Opposition of the petition, or Ask a Question at the hearing. Motion by Ives/Thomes to approve the Agenda of the Public Hearing Notice on January 9, 2021, as presented. All ayes; motion carried.
- b. Class I Notice in Newspaper: Sadauskus gave the Notice for review with Brian Desmond. Any landowner petition withdrawn must be received before December 30, 2020. Motion to approve the Class I Notice on the Crescent Lake Petition as presented by Thome/Winkler. All ayes; motion carried.

- c. Request for Contingency Funding: Sadauskas stated the department will try to take the associated cost of The Crescent Lake petition out of their budget, but would like to ask for funding from the contingency fund for costs such as printing, postage, supplies, and advertising totaling around \$500. A motion by Thome/Ives accepted Contingency Funding as presented. All ayes; motion carried.
- d. Due Date for Written Public Comment: They will request to stay within the January 8, 2021, before noon, deadline date, for any Written Public Comment for Committee approval. Comments will be limited to 3 minutes per person. How will Committee like to receive comments as they come into the office? All the Committee prefers to have comments bundled and brought in at one time. Winkler asked to receive comments one at a time as well. A motion was made by Thome/Ives to approve the January 8, 2021 before the noon deadline for people to submit a written comment or call-in comments. All ayes; motion carried.
- e. Update:
 - a. Board Room Set up: Seating capacity for Committee Room 2 has a limit of 15 persons and the County Board Room limit is 20-25. So they will need to know who will be attending in-person as opposed to virtual. Jim Winkler and Mitch Ives will be there in person. Sadauskas will be at Courthouse but not in person. Door 12 on the Court Park Street will be open at 12:15 p.m.
 - b. Landowner Mailing: Items will include the Class I Notice with changes, Public Hearing Agenda, a map of Crescent Lake area, handout of Chap 4, p.50, Preparing for the Public Hearing. The mailing goes out Tuesday, December 15, 2020.
 - c. Public Hearing Form: Same form that was used last time.
 - d. Zoom Capacity Upgrade: Zoom will accept up to 500 call-ins.

Ryan thanked the County, the subcommittee, and members for their help. They have 65% support of the landowners.

Excused: Brian Desmond and Wake Boat and Crescent Lake discussion participants

Wake Boats and Similar Activities:

General Discussion: Mott has heard the discussion on Squash and Mid Lakes regarding their concern about wake boats. An interesting report regarding damage to weed beds, to fish and their habitat on shallow lakes was included in the packet. John Johnson of the Mid Lake Chain, authored it. He would like to post signs at the boat landings regarding the concern over wake boats. Dan Butkus is on Wisconsin Lakes Board and with Squash Lake. Butkus said at North Lake in Waukesha County, they produced a study using drones. They surveyed whether there should be a no-wake time, limit times or ban the boats. More regulation was not the solution. They favor a self regulation policy. Education of the public on how wake boats impact other people using the lakes is the best option. Recommendations to public officials are being sought out. Mott asked the Oneida County Sheriff about an ordinance regulating safety issue and if they would enforce incidents. Hartman said if a concerned citizen reported a safety issue they would contact the individual. Mott discussed the Eyelids Project at Pelican Lake and how the Sheriff follows up on reported incidents there. A similar action could follow for wake boats. Education is preferred over self regulation. Although county ordinances or state regulations affect tourism and economic value, some action must be taken. The Wisconsin Lakes Association reported Sawyer County, tried to create an ordinance but they withdrew it due to the State Statute 3077. It was questionable if the county had the authority to be more restrictive than Chapter 30. Ultimately, concerns should be raised at the State level. Complaints are coming in all over the state. Erosion, weed beds, water clarity, and effect on fish are all impacted by wake boats. Limits on the distance from shore and size of lake, all need to come from the State Level. The State is not currently involved. Can the County find out if there are any legal limits to what can be done? Registered boats in Wisconsin receive the regulations, but the problem is with the people who visit from out of state. Education by handing out the State Boat Regulations at boat landings could be an option.

Discussion on Oneida County CAFO moratorium ending 1-31-2021:

Potential Manure Storage Ordinance.

Bob Thome: Last year, Oneida County passed a one-year CAFO moratorium with a renewable six-month extension. It will run out in February, 2021. During the pandemic, Planning & Zoning has not worked further on this. Planning and Development put a hold on action until they heard back from DATCP and WDNR. There is talk of a change in regulations. In the last month, there were reports of a CAFO of 7,000 hogs with storage issues near St. Croix. Locally, in Stella, the issue was more about land spreading. It is on the agenda for Wednesday's Planning and Development meeting to extend

the moratorium another six months. Thome presented two maps. One map, in yellow, showed the CAFOs in Wisconsin, with licensing requirements or with zoning ordinances. There are not any in Oneida or surrounding counties. The blue map depicts counties with manure storage ordinances. Most of the state has an ordinance enacted. The hope is that Planning and Development Committee will act on this tomorrow.

Jennrich said they looked at a livestock ordinance and after discussion, the County decided go with the State standards, who prefer the County not come up with a more restrictive ordinance. A manure storage ordinance was drafted after other County ordinances. In February 2020, Planning and Development tabled it. Both ordinances were reviewed and are more like public health ordinances. Most are administered by Land and Water Conservation departments, and ours decided not to develop it at that time. The best way to regulate CAFOs is through zoning districts. Most are allowed in a few districts and prohibited in the majority of districts. The Planning & Development Committee will be sending out revisions to towns. They have forwarded 9.20 to DATCP to address the first of the year. The County is moving towards initiating an ordinance.

Mott said the impact of lakes and rivers in a lake-rich county like ours. If most of the counties have manure storage ordinances, it seems that Oneida County, without regulations, might be a target. Per Planning & Zoning, most have not regulated CAFOs but do regulate manure. This will be on next month's agenda, with a sample ordinance.

Cost Share Update:

Sadauskas asked for Committee approval to partially re-imburse the deposit on the Radue property for \$8,558.00.

Stachowicz Property asking for approval to re-imburse \$3,703.51. It turned out very nice.

Thome/Winkler made motion to approve the cost share reimbursements as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Lake District Reports:

Thunder Lake District—Jim Winkler. A map of the dam issues and hydrology report were included in the packets. Work was performed on the breached dam but there is still an on-going issue with water spilling over.

Lake Nokomis – Alan Van Raalte reported on three meetings. Annual meeting and organizational meetings were held on 8/15/20. The Organizational meeting held elections. The quarterly meeting was on 10/31/20 and the Assessment Review.

LWCD Update:

Conservation and Environmental Awareness Speaking/Poster Contest is scheduled for Wednesday, January 13, 2021. It will take place via zoom and partially in-house at the Courthouse. Speakers will have scheduled time slots. The poster contest is planned to take place in a similar manner.

Consent Agenda Items: (Land and Water Conservation).

A motion made by Winkler/Thome to approve b and c, as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Consent Agenda Items Fair:

A motion by Winkler/Ives to approve consent agenda items a, b, and d. Updates of new Fair Committee member(s) will be given next month. All ayes; motion carried.

Extension Planned Carryovers from 2020 to 2021:

Art Lersch asked for approval on two carryovers for 2021 to support programming. The 4-H has an amount of \$347.70 in donations to cover event program as fees and costs in offering programs virtually. Teen Court respondent fees of \$30 is the second request. Winkler/Ives moved to approve the two carryovers as presented and forward to Administration Committee for approval at their meeting, held on January 11, 2021 at 9:30. All ayes; motion carried.

Communicating Extension's Effectiveness:

Lersch, per the suggestion of the CUW Committee, is working with the Extension educators to better communicate the outcomes of their programming. Extension intends to present these impacts on an ongoing basis during county committee meetings. Per Thome, the community is aware of Extension's good work, but sometimes County Board Supervisors are not aware of all the services offered. The Committee suggested that community stakeholders (e.g. local business owners, people participating in Extension led programs, 4-H youth, etc.) talk with county committees and the County Board about the work Extension is doing. Documenting the points of contacts and making Extension known is the goal of this effort. Lersch stated that the staff had in depth discussion on ways to better communicate Extension's

effectiveness. For example, Terri Kolb will work with Social Services to present to the Social Services committee how the department and Extension are collaborating on projects.

Educator Reports:

The Committee received the written educator reports in their packets. The educators made brief presentations.

Myles Alexander: The Three Lakes Design Wisconsin Presentation was on November 18 and follow-up had their first implementation follow up meetings on the 19th. His role is switching to working with the local leaders of Design Wisconsin. He now will be delving into the rest of the listed activities in other areas of the County. Thome asked if he could assist in guiding the Maple Lake discussion on options and lake criteria.

Anne Williams: Youth membership is up 48% since last year. Students may have lost reading and math skills due to the pandemic and 90% of youth feel they have fewer friends. Projects are encouraging more involvement and life skills. Promotion of virtual recruiting and training adults is taking place and asking senior centers for adult volunteers. She is asking business to become involved with 4-H youth to take active role in shaping their own futures and youth leadership and decision making skills.

Carrie Kubacki: A statewide effort in both counties will introduce two programs called Adult Mental Health First Aid and COPE for adults in January. Virtual hearings are working out well for Teen Court. Evaluations received from families going through the court system have been positive. She is recruiting for panelists, including Three Lakes, as well as Rhinelander and Minocqua. She is involved with Restorative Justice Summits and gaining valuable information to help a better restorative justice. She completed work with a graduate student on a study of marijuana use by youth. Kubacki will present the Learning to Breathe curriculum starting at LUHS first.

Karly Harrison: Pre-recorded videos are complete and distributed to the schools for grades 3-5. Oneida County is the pilot program. Evaluations will follow. The first Healthy Cents program will be starting in Rhinelander, covering food sharing and employment training program. Two people signed up and more will in January. Harrison met with the RAFP food pantry regarding programming and reaching clientele due to little no social interaction. A survey sent to gauge pantry client needs. They will offer on-line classes and a newsletter on health information. On-site events for recipes to prepare healthy meals.

Extension-Nicolet update:

Nicolet College announced that the campus will be closed between December 22 and January 18, 2021, due to an increase in Covid cases. The Extension office is open to the public by appointment only. The Extension website has this information posted with any updates. Requests for water kits and other services are mailed out with instructions on how to complete their requests without visiting the office.

Consent Agenda Items:

A motion was made by Winkler/Mott to approve the Extension consent agenda items a and b. All ayes; motion approved. They will be under budget for 2020. A purchase for weights for the Strong Bodies programs will show up on next month's approvals with any other December expenses.

Public Comment: Mott thanked Extension for the long wait for their portion of the meeting.

Items to Include on next Agenda:

Updates for LWCD, Cost Share, Crescent Lake District formation, CAFOs and manure storage, Lake District Reports/project approvals as needed. County Fair Report, Fair Discussion and Contracts, and 501(c) (3). Extension Nicolet update, Educator Reports, Communicating Extension's Effectiveness, Extension Carry-overs.

Adjournment: Mott adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merry Lehner, Recording Secretary

Bob Mott, Committee Chair